

(Excerpt from Ex. 3834)

RECORD OF THE TRIAL
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA vs SHIGERU SAKADA, et al

Before the
MILITARY COMMISSION
Convened by the
COMANDING GENERAL
United States Army Forces
CHINA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :

-vs- :

SHIGERU SAKADA. :

YUSUJI IINO :

RYUHEI OKADA. :

SOTOJIRO MATSUMA. :

PUBLIC TRIAL

VOLUME III

PAGES 213 TO

SHANGHAI, CHINA.

DATE 1 MAY 1946

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Prosecution's Transcript Exhibits Nos. 27 and 28
Statement of SAKADA, Shigeru

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- Q. Were you in charge of the 13th Army at the time the fliers were court-martialed?
A. I was the commanding general of the 13th Army when the fliers were court-martialed.
Q. What did you have to do with the appointment of the court?
A. I was the one who appointed the court.

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- Q. Did you appoint the court that tried the men in Shanghai?
A. Yes. (p. 1)

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- Q. Isn't true that the finding was forwarded to the War Ministry in Tokyo after the trial was held, for the approval of the War Minister?
A. Under the regulations, all the reports of that sort have to be forwarded to higher headquarters in Tokyo.
Q. Were you in command of the 13th Army at the time the fliers were executed at Kianghwan Military Prison in October of 1942?
A. At that time I was relieved of my duties as commanding general of the 13th Army and was back in Tokyo.
Q. Who was the commanding general of the 13th Army in October 1942?
A. Shimomura. (p. 2)
Q. Who was Chief of Staff of the 13th Army? Was it Karakawa?
A. Karakawa was the Chief of Staff.

- Q. Do you know where General Shimomura is now?
A. In all probability he is in Tokyo right now.
- Q. He was the commanding general in October 1942 when the Doolittle Fliers were executed?
A. Yes he was the commanding general of the 13th Army at that time.
- Q. Did General Shimomura order the execution of the fliers?
A. Under the results of the trial. Shimomura issued the orders to execute these prisoners. During the execution he was the commander of the 13th Army.

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- Q. Was the Kanchawan Military Prison under your jurisdiction?
A. I had authority over Kanchawan.
- Q. Did you give any specific instructions as to how these prisoners were to be treated?
A. When they were first captured, we were told to return them to Tokyo and then we were told to have them tried in Shanghai. We tried them under our jurisdiction and they were found guilty of killing civilians and they were turned over to the Kempatai, so I didn't have anything to do as to how they were to be treated. Any specific details about this incident, if you look through the files of the Imperial Headquarters I am sure you could find records of the trial. (p. 3)

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- Q. Wasn't it a fact that you appointed the court that tried the men?
A. That is right.
- Q. Under Japanese Military Law, doesn't the general who appoints the court approve the sentence that the court gives?
A. Under the military law, I have responsibility of the trial, but due to the fact that I was away from Shanghai at the time of the trial I put Ito in charge.
- Q. Did Colonel Ito approve of the sentence given the fliers?
A. Ito transmitted the findings of the court to headquarters in Tokyo and Tokyo gave the jurisdiction to execute the fliers. Under our regulations, we cannot pass any judgments ourselves. Our policy is to pass the findings of the court and report the findings to headquarters, and headquarters will give instructions as to what the penalty will be. (p. 4)

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- Q. When did you take over command of the Japanese 13th Army in China?
A. I took command of the 13th Japanese Army from 1 December 1940 to October 8, 1942.
- Q. Who succeeded you on October 8, 1942?
A. Lieutenant General Shimomura took over command from October 8, 1942.
- Q. Did you exercise court martial jurisdiction over the Shanghai Area in 1942?

- Q. Yes, they must have my "chop". From May 7, 1942, up till September 17, 1942, between this time I was at the front, so my assistant had my "chop" and did the work for me.
- Q. Did you give him authority to act for you?
- A. During my absence they had my authority to use my "chop", but when I got in, the Doolittle Case, I didn't know anything about it but orders came from Tokyo, but anyway I will be held responsible for this trial.
- Q. Do you feel you were responsible because you were commanding general?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you assume responsibility for the death sentences imposed on the Doolittle Fliers?
- A. They had an order out that the 13th Japanese Commander was to inform Tokyo Imperial Headquarters regarding the trial and sentence given to the fliers, and the Tokyo Imperial Headquarters were to settle the case for them.
- Q. The court was appointed by your Headquarters, wasn't it?
- A. Yes.
- Q. The sentence of death imposed by the court was approved by your Headquarters.
- A. The commanding General of the 13th Japanese Army had no power to change the court sentence.
- Q. You approved the sentence didn't you?
- A. Yes. (p. 1)
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檢察官御法廷証第二十號第二十號附本

澤田 茂陳述

X X X X

問 飛行士達が軍法會議ニ附セラレタ當時貴下ハ第十三軍ヲ指揮シテ居
マシタカ

答 私ハ飛行士達ガ軍法會議ニ附セラレタ時第十三軍司令官デアリマシ
タ

問 法廷諸員任命ニ關シテハ貴下ハ何ヲシマシタカ

答 私ガ法廷諸員ヲ任命致シマシタ

問 貴下ガ上海デ此ノ人々ヲ裁判シタ法廷諸員ヲ任命シタノデスカ
サウデアリマス

X X X X

問 裁判ガ開カレタ後判決ガ陸軍大臣ノ承認ヲ得ル爲メ陸軍省ヘ送ラレ
タ事ハ事實デアリマスカ

Dof Doo

答	問	答	問	答	問	答
サウデス彼ハ其ノ時第十三軍司令官デアリマシタ	デアリマシタカ	彼ハドウリツトル飛行七達ガ處刑サレタ一九四二年十月ニハ司令官	恐ラク唯今ハ東京ニ居ラレルデセウ	貴下ハ下村將軍ガ今何處ニ居ラレルカ知ツテキマスカ	雪川ガ參謀長デシタ	第十三軍ノ參謀長ハ誰デシタカ、雪川 ^{カラ} デシタカ
					下村デアリマシタ(二頁)	一九四二年十月ノ第十三軍司令官ハ誰デシタカ
					當時私ハ第十三軍司令官ヲ兼ゼラレ東京ニ居ツテ居リマシタ	一九四二年十月江灣陸軍刑務所ニ於テ處刑サレタ時貴下ハ第十三軍
					ヲ指揮シテ居マシタカ	ニナツテ居マシタ
						規則ニ從ヘバ其ノ種ノ報告ハ凡テ東京ノ上級司令部ヘ届ケラレル事

問 答 問 答 問 答

問 下村將軍が飛行七達ノ處刑ヲ命令シタノデスカ

答 是レ結果ニ基イテデアリマス。下村ハ是等ノ捕虜ヲ死刑ニスル命

令ヲ發シマシタ。處刑ノ際彼ハ第十三軍ノ司令官デアリマシタ

江邊陸軍刑務所ハ貴下ノ管轄區域内デアリマシタカ

私ハ江邊ニハ命令權ガアリマシタ

問 是等ノ捕虜達ヲ如何ニ扱フベキカニ關シ貴下ハ何カ特ニ命令ヲ下シ

マシタカ

答 彼等ガ最初捕ヘラレタ時我々ハ彼等ヲ東京ニ戻スヤウ命ジラレ、其

後ニ至ツテ上海デ裁判ニ附スルヤウ命ジラレマシタ

我々ノ裁判權ノ下デ我々ハ彼等ヲ裁判ニ附シ而シテ彼等ハ非戰同員

殺害ノ罪アル事ガ分リマシテ憲兵隊ノ方ヘ廻サレマシタ、故ニ彼等

ノ取扱ニ關シテハ私ハ何等ノ關係アリマセン。此ノ事件ニ關スル特

ニ悉曲ノ點ニ就テハ大本營ノ記録ヲ御覽ニナレバ本裁判ノ記録ヲ御

見附ケニナルト信ジマス（三頁）

答	問	答	問
アリマス	是等ノ人々ヲ裁判シタ法廷諸員ヲ貴下ガ任命シタコトハ事實デスカ	サウデアリマス	日本ノ軍法デハ法廷ノ判決ヲ其法廷諸員ヲ任命シタ將軍ガ承認ヲス
カラ他ニ出張シテ居ツタ事ニ依リマシテ私ハ伊豫ニ擔當サセタノデ	軍法デハ私ハ裁判ニ對シ責任ガアルノデスガ其ノ裁判當時私ガ上海	ルノデハアリマセンカ	

問	答	問	答
伊藤大佐ハ飛行士ニ與ヘタ判決ヲ承諾シマシタカ		貴下ガ支那ニ於ケル日本ノ第十三軍ノ指揮ヲ取ツタノハ何時デスカ	
伊藤ハ法廷ノ判決ヲ東京ノ司令部ヘ移送シ、而シテ東京側ハ飛行士		私ハ一九四〇年十二月一日カラ一九四二年十月八日迄第十三軍ノ指	
處刑ノ権限ヲ與ヘタノデアリマス。		揮ヲシマシタ	
我々ノ規則デハ我々自身デ判		一九四二年十月八日ニ誰ガ貴下ノ後任トアリマシタカ	
決ヲ爲ス事ハ出來マセン。		一九四二年十月八日カラ下村中將ガ指揮ヲシマシタ	
我々ノ方針デハ法廷ノ判決ヲ下シ其ノ		一九四二年ニ於テ貴下ハ上海地區ニ於テ軍法會議ノ裁判權ヲ行使シ	
判決ヲ司令部ニ報告シ而シテ司令部ガ如何ナル刑ニ處スベキカニ就		マシタカ	
テ指令ヲ下スノデアリマス（四頁）			

答	問	答	問	答
シマシタ。ソレニハ私ノ印ガ入リマス。一九四二年五月七日カ	ラ一九四二年九月十七日迄、此ノ期間内ハ前線ニ在リマシタノデ	私ノ幕僚ハ私ノ印ヲ持チ私ノ代リニ事務ヲ取りマシタ。	貴下ノ代理ヲスル權限ヲ彼ニ與ヘタノデスカ	私ノ不在中彼等ガ私ノ印ヲ用ヒル私ノ權限ヲ有シテ居ッタノデアリ
マス、然シ私ガ戻リマシタトキ、ドウリツトル事件、ソレニ就テ	ハ私ハ何モ知ラス唯東京カラ命令ガ來マシタノミデアリマスガ兎ニ	角私ハ此ノ裁判ニ關シテハ選ンデ責任アリトサレマセウ	貴下ハ司令官タルノ故ニ以テ責任ガアルト思フノデスカ	サウデアリマス
飛行士達ニ謀シタ死刑ノ宣告ノ爲メニ責任ヲ取ルノデスカ	本裁判及ビ飛行士ニ與ヘタ判決ニ關シ第十三軍司令官ハ東京大本營	ニ報告スル事ニナツテ居リ而シテ東京大本營ハ彼等ノ爲メ此ノ事件	ヲ決定スルコトニナツテ居リマシタ	

問 答 問 答 問 答
法廷諸員ハ貴下ノ司令部ニ依リ任命サレタノデシタネ
サウデアリマス
法廷ノ興ヘタ死刑ノ宣告ハ貴下ノ司令部ニ依ツテ承認サレタノデシタ
日本ノ第十三條ノ司令官ハ法廷ノ判決ヲ變更スルカハ待ツテ厩リマセ
ン
貴下ハ判決ヲ承認シタノデスネ
サウデアリマス